

GERMANY ADMITS PLOT AGAINST U. S.

SECRETARY ZIMMERMANN SAYS
ACTION JUSTIFIED.

TERMED DEFENSIVE MEASURE

Admission of Scheme Created No Surprise in Washington—Document Proposing German-Mexican-Japanese Alliance in Hands of President.

Berlin.—The Imperial government frankly admits that Germany, in planning unrestricted submarine warfare and counting on its consequences, had proposed an alliance with Mexico and Japan to make war on the United States in event of hostilities between the two countries.

Foreign Secretary Zimmermann issued a statement in which he justified the action in seeking to ally Mexico and Japan against the United States as a defensive measure—not to be carried out except in case the United States declared war on Germany. He refrained from admitting specifically his authorship of the letter to Minister Eckhardt at Mexico City, and his discussion, he stated, was based on "English reports" of the "German plot to get Mexico to declare war against the United States."

Zimmermann's statement to the German official press bureau follows: "You understand that it is impossible for me to discuss the facts of this 'revealed plot' just at this moment and under these circumstances."

"I therefore may be allowed to limit my answer to what is said in the English reports, which were not inspired by sympathy with Germany."

Measures of Defense. "The English reports state that Germany expected and wished to remain with the United States on terms of friendship, but in case the United States declared war against Germany, we prepared measures of defense. I fail to see how such a 'plot' is inspired by unfriendliness on our part. It would mean nothing but that we would use means universally admitted in war in case the United States declared war."

The most important part of the alleged plot is its conditions and form. The whole 'plot' falls flat to the ground in case the United States does not declare war against us."

"And if we really, as the report alleges, considered the possibility of a hostile act by the United States against us, then we really had reasons to do so."

Paper Reveals Plot. "An Argentine newspaper revealed the 'plot' in telling that the United States last year suggested to the other American republics common action against Germany and her allies."

"This 'plot' was apparently not conditional in the least. The news as published by the newspaper La Prensa agreed with the interpretation given by an American newspaper man, of Berlin, who said that the United States was only waiting for the proper moment in order opportunistically to assist the entente."

"The same American stated that Americans from the beginning of the war really participated in it by putting the 'immense resources of the United States at the entente's disposal, and that the Americans had not declared war only because they felt sure that assistance by friendly neutrality would be during that time much more efficient for the entente, than direct participation in the war."

Cut Off From Communication. "Whether this American newspaper man reported the facts exactly, we were at a loss to judge, since we were nearly cut off from communication with the United States."

"But there were other facts which seemed to confirm this and similar assurances."

"The entente propaganda services have heralded these pro-entente demonstrations in the United States. And if you link these demonstrations, together with the actual attitude of the United States, then it is obvious that the consideration was not frivolous on our part of what defensive measures we should take if we were attacked by the United States."

Washington Not Surprised. Washington.—German Foreign Minister Zimmermann's admission that Germany did seek to ally Japan and Mexico with it to war against the United States caused no surprise to American officials, although it may be said they did not expect so full and free an acknowledgment of the exposure.

Some officials had thought there might be an attempt to discredit the authenticity of the revelations by offering an explanation of a different

Swiss Paper Upbraids Germany. Varne.—Although most of the German language newspapers in Switzerland thus far print without comment the Zimmermann note, as made public through the revelations at Washington, the Nachrichten (Basel) upbraids Germany for "having talked high morality and acted in an exactly opposite way." "Something terrible has happened to the German foreign office," says the paper.

character. American officials have never had the least doubt of the authenticity of the evidence in their hands.

Minister Zimmermann's defense of Germany's intrigue on the ground that it was only intended to be carried out in the event the United States did not remain neutral is taken not to change the situation in the slightest degree.

Whether it was presented to General Carranza or not, or the fact that it is believed not to have been communicated to Japan, do not, in the opinion of American officials, after the established fact that Germany, while seeking the offices of the United States to make peace and while protesting its innocence in any intention to violate American lives, was at the same moment preparing unrestricted submarine warfare and was intriguing to attack the United States with two allies.

The Pan-American "Plot." Mr. Zimmermann's reference to an alleged "plot" by the United States to unite pan-America against Germany was regarded with mingled feeling of incomprehension and amusement. The pan-American union, the Argentine embassy and the State department can find record of no such newspaper publication as Zimmermann contends revealed the "plot" in Buenos Aires.

The only event, which officials can recall which is susceptible of being distorted to such a charge as Zimmermann makes was discussion early in Secretary Bryan's term of office of a plan to surround the Pan-American with a neutral zone in which there were to be no naval operations. Nothing ever came of it.

Details of German Plot.

Japan, through Mexican mediation, was to be urged to abandon her allies and join in the attack on the United States. Mexico, for her reward, was to receive general financial support from Germany, reconquer Texas, New Mexico and Arizona—lost provinces—and share in the victorious peace terms Germany contemplated. Details were left to German Minister von Eckhardt in Mexico City, who by instructions signed by German Foreign Minister Zimmermann at Berlin January 19, 1917, was directed to propose the alliance with Mexico to General Carranza and suggest that Mexico seek to bring Japan into the plot.

These instructions were transmitted to Von Eckhardt through Count von Bernstorff, former German ambassador here, now on his way home to Germany under a safe conduct obtained from his enemies by the country against which he was plotting war.

Pictures World Dominion.

Germany pictured to Mexico by broad intimation England and the entente allies defeated; Germany and her allies triumphant and the world domination by the instrument of unrestricted warfare.

A copy of Secretary Zimmermann's instructions to Von Eckhardt, sent through Von Bernstorff, is in possession of the United States government. The document has been in the hands of the government since President Wilson broke off diplomatic relations with Germany. It was in the president's hands while Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg was declaring that the United States had placed an interpretation on the submarine declaration "never intended by Germany" and that Germany had promoted and honored friendly relations with the United States "as an heirloom from Frederick the Great."

Of itself, if there were no other, it is considered a sufficient answer to the German chancellor's plaint that the United States "brusquely" broke off relations without giving "authentic" reasons for its action.

The document supplies the missing link to many separate chains of circumstances, which until now have seemed to lead to no definite point.

It sheds new light upon the frequently reported but indefinite movements of the Mexican government to couple its situation with the friction between the United States and Japan. It gives new credence to persistent reports of submarine bases on Mexican territory in the Gulf of Mexico; it takes cognizance of a fact long recognized by American army chiefs, that if Japan ever undertook to invade the United States it probably would be through Mexico, over the border and into the Mississippi valley to split the country in two.

It recalls that Count von Bernstorff when handed his passports was very reluctant to return to Germany, but expressed a preference for asylum in Cuba.

It gives a new explanation to the repeated arrests on the border of men charged by American military authorities with being German intelligence agents.

Last of all, it seems to show a connection with General Carranza's recent proposal to neutrals that exports of food and munitions to the entente allies be cut off, and an intimation that he might stop the supply of oil, so vital to the British navy, which is exported from the Tampico fields.

Tool of Germany. Rio Janeiro.—General Carranza is pictured as a tool of Germany in newspaper comment here on the Zimmermann note to Mexico. O. Palz says: "In spite of the ingenuity of the Machiavellism of Germany it is beyond doubt that the proposition to make General Carranza a tool of Berlin is fortunately unsuccessful. The duplicity of Carranza has been opportunely unmasked and will give a finishing blow to his project for a Latin American conference."

WILSON AGAIN IS MADE PRESIDENT

Chief Executive Inducted Into
Office With Due Ceremony.

PATRIOTISM MARKS THE DAY

Vice President Marshall First Takes
the Oath—Imposing Inaugural Parade Is Largely Military in Its
Nature—Flags and Illumination.

By EDWARD B. CLARK.

Washington, March 5.—Woodrow Wilson has been inaugurated president of the United States for the second time, and Thomas R. Marshall has come into his own as vice president of the United States for the second time in company with the chief executive.

For several nights prior to the inauguration, Washington was a flood of light. Thousands of American citizens came to the capital of their nation from all over the United States to witness the ceremonies attending the inauguration. The situation of the country in reference to its foreign relations added more than a touch of seriousness and a distinct flavor of patriotism to the entire proceedings. Washington is a city of flags at all times, but it became ten times a city of flags one day before the ceremonies of inauguration.

President Wilson drove from the White House to the capitol with his wife at his side. In the carriage with him were two members of the congressional committee which had general charge of the ceremonies, and of which Senator Overman of North Carolina is chairman.

Vice President Marshall, with Mrs. Marshall in the carriage with him, was escorted in like manner to the capitol.

Big Crowds, Many Flags.

From an early hour the sidewalks were crowded with persons waiting to see the president and "the first lady of the land" pass along the avenue to the place of the oath-taking. All the windows commanding a view of Pennsylvania avenue also were crowded with onlookers. The red, white and blue was everywhere in evidence. The only foreign flags to be seen in Washington were those flying from the flagpoles of the foreign embassies and legations which, even though they are located in the city of Washington, are recognized as being foreign territory.

Vice President Marshall was sworn into office before the inauguration of the president. The exercises took place in the senate chamber. The legislative day of March 3, so far as the senate was concerned, had been continued by recesses until the hour of 12 noon of the calendar day March 5.

The president pro tempore of the senate presided at the ceremonies preceding the administering of the oath to the vice president-elect. The president of the United States, the members of the cabinet, the foreign ambassadors and other notable guests occupied seats



Woodrow Wilson.

in the senate chamber. At twelve o'clock the president pro tempore administered the oath of office prescribed by law to the vice president-elect.

Immediately following the taking of the oath of office by Mr. Marshall, the newly elected senators of the United States were sworn into office. Then the vice president made this announcement: "The sergeant-at-arms of the senate will carry out the order of the senate for the inauguration of the president of the United States."

The president-elect, accompanied by the chief justice of the United States, the joint committee on arrangements, the associate justices of the Supreme Court, the foreign ambassadors and ministers plenipotentiary, the members of the senate, preceded by the vice president and secretary of the senate, the holder members of the house of representatives, preceded by the officers of the house who have just relinquished office by virtue of the expiration of their terms, and other distinguished guests made their way to the inaugural stand.

Inauguration of the President. The procession, headed by the president-elect, wound through the east

side door, the main corridors of the senate and through the rotunda of the capitol to the place set for the oath-taking. On reaching the inaugural stand, Woodrow Wilson took a place directly in front of Edward D. White, the chief justice of the United States, and the chief clerk of the Supreme court, James D. Maher. The sergeant-at-arms of the senate and the congressional committee on arrangements were immediately on the left of the president. The vice president, the associate justices of the Supreme Court and the members of the senate sat upon his right.

When all were assembled Chief Justice White, having in his right hand the open Bible upon which the hands of many former presidents have rested, advanced to Woodrow Wilson and administered to him this oath, which is imposed by the Constitution of the United States:

"You do solemnly swear that you will faithfully execute the office of president of the United States and will to the best of your ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Woodrow Wilson said in a firm voice, "I do," and he became for the second time president of the United States of America.

Then the president delivered his inaugural address and on its conclusion he made his way with Mrs. Wilson to



Thomas R. Marshall.

his carriage and was driven slowly to the White House at the head of the procession formed in honor of the inaugural ceremonies.

Luncheon Deferred for Parade. In years past the presidential party always has entered the White House for luncheon prior to the review of the parade from the stand in front of the executive mansion. This invariably in the past caused such a delay that it was decided this year to do away with the luncheon feature.

President Wilson with Mrs. Wilson, the Vice President and Mrs. Marshall, and two members of his cabinet went immediately to the little inclosed structure, much like a sentry box, which had been built in the middle of the great grandstand in front of the White House and from which the chief executive viewed the parades.

It was the gravity of the situation in connection with our foreign affairs which gave to the inaugural ceremonies their serious tone and patriotic features. The parade of the day was largely military in its nature, although there were in the procession many bodies which in a sense might be said to represent the spirit of industrial preparedness of the United States for any eventuality which might come.

Make-up of the Procession.

At the forefront of the parade as it left the capitol were, of course, the president and the vice president of the United States with their guards of honor. Major General Hugh L. Scott, U. S. army, was the grand marshal of the occasion. George R. Linkins was the marshal of the civic organizations which took part in the marching ceremonies.

Immediately preceding the carriages of the presidential and vice presidential parties and of Col. Robert N. Harper, inaugural chairman, was the famous United States Marine band. The president had as his guard of honor the squadron of the Second United States cavalry.

The Vice President and Mrs. Marshall were escorted by the Black Horse troop of the Culver Military academy, Indiana, the state of which the vice president and his wife are natives.

The West Point cadets and the Annapolis cadets took part in the procession. In addition to these young soldier and sailor organizations there was as large a representation of the forces of the United States as properly could be spared from post and garrison duty. In addition there were troops from Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, and some other states of the Union representing the National Guard.

A patriotic and picturesque feature of the ceremonies attending the inauguration was supplied by the rapidly thinning ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic. In years past the soldiers of the war between the states have made the entire length of the line of march, but this year the distance which they tramped was shortened. They added to the picture of the parade as they moved by the presidential reviewing stand with their old flags above them.

At night Washington was aglow with fireworks and with the combined effects of gas and electric light illuminations. In addition searchlights showed the heavens here and there, and one great shaft of light illuminated the apex of the Washington monument while another lighted up and brought into bold relief the dome of the capitol.

DOINGS OF THE LATE CONGRESS

Notable for Response to the Demand for Preparedness.

AUTHORIZED A GREAT NAVY

Provided Also for Increase and Reorganization of Army—Some of the Momentous Economic Statutes That Were Passed.

Washington, March 5.—The Sixty-fourth congress, which has passed into the annals of things that were, will be long remembered as the congress which responded to the demand for national preparedness. While economic statutes of pith and moment have been written into the law of the land, preparedness measures, inspired by the European war, out-top all other legislation.

Although ample provision has been made for fortifications, and authority has been granted by congress to more than double the standing army of the country, the metamorphosis of the United States from a commercial to a fighting nation has been wrought by the naval increases authorized. The congress now expired has authorized naval armaments destined to make Uncle Sam eventually the peer of any nation on earth in sea power, excepting, perhaps, Great Britain.

In the two sessions comprising the Sixty-fourth congress there have been authorized and appropriated for no less than 118 war craft. Nor is this all. The first session adopted a three-year-building program, the construction of which should be undertaken prior to July 1, 1918. This program included this allotment of fighting ships: Ten battleships, six battle cruisers, ten scout cruisers, 50 torpedo destroyers, nine fleet submarines, 38 coast submarines, one experimental submarine (Neff system), three fuel ships, one repair ship, one transport, one hospital ship, two destroyer tenders, one fleet submarine tender, two ammunition ships, two gunboats.

Naval Vessels Appropriated For.

By the act which adopted this building program congress appropriated for four battleships, four battle cruisers, four scout cruisers, 20 destroyers, 30 submarines, and one each of these craft: Experimental submarine, fuel ship, hospital ship, ammunition ship and gunboat. During the second session provision was made for three battleships, one battle cruiser, three scout cruisers, 15 destroyers, one destroyer tender, one submarine tender and 18 submarines.

If the Sixty-fifth congress adopts the three-year program the remainder of the units for the reorganized battle fleet will be appropriated for next year. Staggering sums have been required to meet these demands, the naval appropriation for the second session of the expired congress alone amounting to almost a round half-billion dollars.

So great have been these expenditures that the ordinary sources of revenue are not sufficient and a special revenue measure had to be passed. Representative Kitchin, majority leader and chairman of the house ways and means committee, a small-navy man, in drafting the revenue measure and pressing it to passage through the house charged full responsibility for the measure to the advocates of preparedness.

Increase of the Army.

Increases of the regular army and its reorganizations under the national defense act were less striking than the naval increases. But the regular army was increased from an authorized peace strength of 100,000 to an authorized peace strength of 210,000, capable of expansion in war time to 250,000. After prolonged agitation for preparedness both on land and sea, the consensus of the military experts was that the United States with its enormous length of coast line must rely on its fleet to defend its shores.

In the discussions that preparedness agitation in congress provoked it was again and again demonstrated that the temper of the American people is absolutely against a big standing army. Former Secretary Garrison formulated and laid before congress with President Wilson's approval a scheme for a Continental army to be recruited and trained under the universal military training principle. Representative Hay of Virginia, then chairman of the powerful house military committee, opposed the Continental army idea and substituted for it in the national defense act, the federalization of the National Guard. Mr. Hay won President Wilson over to his way of thinking—the Federalized National Guard became the second line of the land defenses and Secretary Garrison resigned from the cabinet.

Other Notable Acts.

Although preparedness was the keynote of legislation, the Sixty-fourth congress found time also to enact a ship purchase bill, the Adamson eight-hour railroad law, a child labor law, a measure to forbid the immigration of illiterate aliens, a rural credits bill, a vocational educational bill and an act reorganizing the government of Porto Rico and extending citizenship to the islanders.

The ship purchase bill established a government shipping board to supervise shipping matters generally. It appropriated \$50,000,000 to be obtained from the sale of Panama canal bonds for the purchase or construction

of ships to be leased to private individuals in an effort to restore the American merchant marine.

The Adamson eight-hour railroad law was enacted on the eve of adjournment of the first session of the last congress. The enactment of the measure prevented a nationwide railroad strike. It, however, has never become effective. Between the time of its enactment and the time for the commencement of its operation, January 1 last, the constitutionality of the measure was challenged by the railroads, and the whole matter is now pending in the Supreme court.

Supplemental railroad legislation, proposed by President Wilson in his annual message last December, failed of enactment. This legislation would have provided for the prevention of strikes by compulsory legislation. It was heartily opposed by all of the bodies of organized labor which had previously sought the eight-hour railroad law.

Child Labor and Immigration.

The child labor law barred from interstate commerce all products of children under sixteen years of age in mines or of children under fourteen in factories.

The passage of the immigration bill with its literacy test was accomplished over President Wilson's second veto. The literacy feature had been a subject of controversy between the executive and legislative branches of the government for the past twenty years. Presidents Taft and Cleveland both vetoed immigration measures because they carried the literacy feature, which all three presidents thought was not a proper measure of the fitness of aliens for admission to the United States.

The federal farm-loan act, commonly called the rural-credits bill, created 12 federal land banks with \$750,000 capital each. The bill provides a system whereby loans may be made to farmers for productive purposes through national farm-loan associations. It will meet more particularly the needs of agriculturists in the West and South.

Under the vocational educational act the federal government on a gradually increasing scale covers every state appropriation dollar for dollar for secondary school instruction in agriculture and the mechanical and industrial arts.

On the eve of adjournment congress passed the post-office appropriation bill, with an amendment making "bone dry" all states having prohibitory laws. This measure was introduced in the senate by Senator Reed of Missouri. Its unexpected enactment had the effect of absolutely prohibiting the shipment in interstate commerce of intoxicants into states or territories which forbid the manufacture or sale of liquor.

It also closes the mails to all liquor advertising, including newspaper advertising. Neither can letters soliciting liquor orders be carried in the mails.

Sixteen Senators Retire.

Sixteen senators have now discarded their togas and prefixed their titles with "ex." This disturbance of personnel reduces but does not upset the Democratic control of the upper house. The Democratic majority of 16 is cut to 12, leaving out of consideration such senators and senators-elect as La Follette, Hiram Johnson, Poinsett and Norris, officially classed as Republicans but not always voting according to classification.

Among the nationally known senators now retired to private life are Clarence D. Clark of Wyoming, who has served in the senate continuously since January 23, 1895; Moses E. Chapin of Minnesota, one of the original Progressives; Luke Lea of Tennessee, now only thirty-seven years old, known as the "Baby Senator;" James E. Martin of New Jersey, who acquired fame early in his senatorial career by his staunch defense of applejack as a beverage, and John W. Kern of Indiana, who has been Democratic leader of the senate.

"Needling no introduction" among the new senators are Hiram Johnson of California, Frank B. Kellogg, "trust buster," of Minnesota, and Philander C. Knox of Pennsylvania. Unlike the rest of the senators-elect, "their reputations are made;" all they need to do is to "live up to 'em."

WRITERS BEHIND THE TIMES

Complaint Made That They Have Taken No Cognizance of Changes Occurring in Dialects.

When Joseph Vance, of whom *The Morgan* wrote a book, was a boy in London, the local dialect was like this: "He's a goin' for to fight Mr. Gumm beyond the Pinnerforty works, and you better look sharp if you want for to see anything."

Vance went away to South America and returned after many years to find the jargon altered to this pattern: "It (the noise) was a lily with a billy fighting another lily and both was took off to the Styton."

All American dialects have changed in 50 years as that of London did, with the possible exception of the tongue spoken in the southern Appalachian country. Yet, to judge by American comic papers and the gentlemen of the stage, our dialects are as immutable as the stars. They change no more than the faces of great chiefs.

Why would it not be a good idea to appoint a committee to wait on editors of humorous periodicals and the writers of plays and point out to them politely that they speak the language of people long in their graves and superseded?—Toledo Blade.